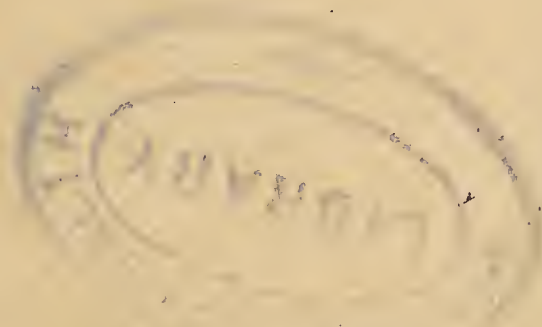


RURAL DISTRICT OF LIMEHURST



# INTERIM REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health


AND

# THE REPORT

of the Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1949



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# Limehurst Rural District Council

## 1949-50



### Members of the Council:

Parish

Councillor	T. OLLERENSHAW, J.P., Chairman	... Waterloo
„	W. ROBERTSON, Vice-Chairman	... Woodhouses
„	E. COLLINGE	..... Bardsley
„	Mrs. W. M. BOWMAN To May, 1949	Littlemoss
	(did not seek re-election)	
„	J. J. CRESWELL. From May, 1949	... Littlemoss
„	W. SLATER	..... Alt
„	L. MILLIN	..... Waterloo

### Officials:

E. H. RATCLIFFE, A.C.A.	..... Clerk of the Council
B. BOWMAN, M.B. Ch.B.	..... Medical Officer of Health
S. DAVIES, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.	..... Sanitary Inspector
H. BRADSHAW	..... Surveyor
A. HOWSON, A.R.V.A.	..... Rating Officer
H. E. Turner	..... Valuation Officer Part-time

### Public Health Staff:

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector.

Clerk.

# INTERIM REPORT



Council Offices,

200, Oldham Road,

Waterloo, near Ashton-under-Lyne.

March, 1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

of the

## Limehurst Rural District Council

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1949. I have pleasure in announcing that the general health remains good.

To the Members of the Council and Officials, I tender my thanks for their assistance and co-operation during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

B. BOWMAN,

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

PARISH	AREA IN ACRES	No. of Inhabited Houses	Rateable Value £	Product Id. Rate £
Alt .....	1,132·724	271	3,262	12
Bardsley .....	883·076	615	8,903	33
Littlemoss ...	703·802	294	4,213	14
Waterloo .....	341·139	1,369	17,027	63
Woodhouses...	627·545	410	5,906	20
Totals...	3,688 286	2,959	39,311	142

Population at 1931 Census (excluding Hartshead) ... 8,151

Population for 1949 (Registrar-General's estimate—  
June, 1949) ..... 8,210

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

#### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Generally the number of notifiable diseases was again small, an increase in the incidence of measles was noted.

Total number of Notifiable Diseases recorded  
during the year ..... 149.  
(including tuberculosis)

There were 2 cases of diphtheria notified during the year.

31 cases of scarlet fever were notified, 5 of these were admitted to hospital.

2 cases of suspected infectious diseases (1 diphtheria, 1 dysentery) were not confirmed

Infectious disease cases admitted to hospital were as follows:

Diphtheria.

Westhulme (Oldham) ..... 2

Scarlet Fever.

Westhulme (Oldham) ..... 3

Hyde ..... 2

Ambulance facilities were provided by the hospital admitting the patient.

No. of premises (houses) disinfected ..... 22

No. of other premises disinfected ..... 1



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR, 1949 Notified cases only included.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED YEARS											Total Deaths (the figures in this column agree with those supplied by the Registrar General).	Hospital. — Total Cases removed to Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over		
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	1	2	3	5	14	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis-Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	86	1	20	10	14	19	20	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	12	1	3	2	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Notifiable diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	142	4	24	15	20	28	36	5	3	1	2	1	3	7	1

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## New Cases and Mortality during 1949.

YEARS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1								
1—5								
5—10								
10—15								
15—20								
20—25								
25—35	3							
35—45	2	1						
45—55	1							
55—65								
65 and over								
	6	1						
	7							

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

On the 5th July, 1948, the National Health Service Act, 1946, became operative, thus transferring the Ambulance and Hospital Service to the Regional Hospital Board.

Further changes under the National Health Service Act, 1946, called for the setting up of Health Divisions throughout the County Administrative Area, each Health Division being responsible for the following services.

Reference to

National Health

### SERVICES

Service Act, 1946

Section 22	Care of Mothers and Young Children.
Section 24	Health Visiting Service.
Section 23	Domiciliary Midwifery Service.
Section 25	Home Nursing Service.
Section 29	Domestic Help Service.
Section 28	Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
Section 26	Vaccination and Immunisation.
Section 27	Ambulance Service.

Section 21	Health Centres.
	Health Education.
Tenth Schedule	Infectious Diseases.
	Voluntary Committees.
Section 51	Mental Health Service.

The Rural District is zoned into the Health Divisions as follows:

Parish of Woodhouses (only)...Health Division No. 14.  
Offices: "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton. Phone:  
MAIn (Oldham) 6251/2.

Parishes of Alt, Bardsley, Littlemoss and  
Waterloo .....Health Division No. 17.  
Offices: Divisional Health Office, St. Michael's Square,  
Ashton-under-Lyne. Phone: Ashton-under-Lyne 2847/8.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47

No. of applications made during the period 1st January, 1949  
to 31st December, 1949 ..... Nil.  
No. of orders made ..... Nil.

#### SCHOOL CLINIC

There are no School Clinics in the District, but facilities are available for school children at the undermentioned premises.

**Medical Officer's Inspection Clinic, Water Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:**

Monday, 2.0 to 3.30 p.m.

Thursday, 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

**Minor Ailment Clinic, Water Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 1.30 to  
3.30 p.m.

Thursday, 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

Special appointments are made for Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat and Artificial Sunlight Clinics.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Welfare Centres and Clinics are administered by the Lancashire County Council; sessions are held regularly in accordance with the following programme:

##### Welfare Centre

(including diphtheria immunisation)

Methodist School, Oldham Road, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Every Tuesday at 2.0 p.m.



### **Ante-Natal Clinics**

Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Alternate Fridays, 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Richmond House, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Alternate Fridays, 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

### **Child Welfare Centres**

Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Tuesday, 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Richmond House, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Thursday, 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Ormonde Street Welfare, Hurst, Ashton-under-Lyne:

Wednesday, 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Limehurst mothers who are in employment, particularly those employed in the textile industry, may make application to the Matron for the admission of their children to any of the Day Nurseries in Health Division No. 17.

The Day Nurseries nearest to Limehurst are: Hurst Day Nursery, King's Road, Ashton-under-Lyne; West End Day Nursery, West End Council School, Ashton-under-Lyne.

### **MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936**

The Midwife allocated to the Rural District is Mrs. A. Harrop, S.C.M., S.R.N., residing at 5, Ney Street, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne. Telephone No.: ASH 2033.

### **WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE**

2,907 houses are supplied by public mains and have a tap inside the house; 41 houses depend on wells or other private sources of supply.

Two small schemes to provide a piped water supply to 40 houses, including three milk-producing farms, were prepared during 1945 and 1946. The work of laying the necessary mains is now in hand. During the year four cottages and one farm (milk producing) have been connected to the new mains.

Two parishes (Waterloo and Bardsley, 2,080 houses) are sewered; the parishes of Littlemoss and Woodhouses are partially sewered by neighbouring authorities, namely, County Borough of Oldham and the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne. These sewers are primarily serving these Authorities' overspill housing schemes. The parish of Alt is without public sewer.

The number of houses in the parishes of Alt, Littlemoss and Woodhouses which are not served by a public sewer is 708.

## Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

### 1. Inspections, for the purposes of provisions as to health, including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	23	—	—
Factories (without mechanical power ... ..	1	—	—
Other premises under the Act... (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) ...	3	—	—
Total ... ..	27	—	—

### 2. Defects Found.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—
unsuitable or defective ... ..	—	—	—	—
not separate for sexes... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	—	—	—	—
Not including offences relating to home work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule of the Factories Act, 1937.				
Total ... ..	2	2	—	—

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—3

# Sanitary Inspector's Report

## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LIMEHURST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the District for the year 1949.

With regard to foodstuffs consumed in the Area, these have not given rise to any difficulties; the standard of milk produced within the District has remained good.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all Members and Officials of the Council for their help and valuable co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector.

### NOTICES SERVED—NUISANCE AND SANITARY DEFECTS

No. of Informal Notices served during 1949 (concerning 133 houses) .....	115
No. of same complied with during 1949 (concerning 116 houses) .....	102
No. of Statutory Notices served .....	11
No. of Statutory Notices complied with .....	9
No. of Legal Proceedings authorised .....	3
No. of Legal Proceedings taken .....	Nil

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, DRAINAGE, ETC.

During the year the undermentioned work has been carried out:

No. of waste-water closets converted to fresh-water closets .....	4
No. of ashpits abolished (concerning 36 houses) .....	19
No. of closet pails provided as renewals .....	49
No. of dustbins provided, including conversions and renewals to 31st March, 1949 .....	36
No. of premises where fresh-water closets were installed .....	9
No. of premises where existing drains were cleansed or repaired .....	17
No. of public sewers cleansed .....	12



The 586 pail closets are remote from the public sewer and the question of conversion will remain in abeyance until such times as sewerage facilities are provided to these parts of the District.

During the year the remaining 19 ash-pits have been abolished.

With reference to the 465 waste-water closets in the District, it is generally agreed that this type of convenience should be abolished and replaced by fresh-water closets.

The closet accommodation for 2,491 houses is on the water-carriage system.

The number of dustbins now to be emptied in the whole District is 2,794 as against 171 in 1922.

On the 1st April, 1949, the Council inaugurated a system of maintaining and renewing dustbins as may be necessary for the reception of house refuse throughout the District, the cost thereof to be charged to General Rate Fund.

The following report is a summary of work done by the Surveyor's Department, details of which have been supplied by your Surveyor, Mr. Bradshaw.

**Housing**

The number of occupied houses in the District at 1st January, 1949, was 2,689, and at 31st December, 1949, this had increased to 2,959.

The houses were erected as follows:

Houses at 1st January, 1949 ...	2689	
Houses erected by Limehurst Council .....	34	(Waterloo)
Houses erected by Ashton Corporation .....	93	
Houses erected by Oldham Corporation .....	136	
Houses erected by private enterprise .....	6	
Conversions .....	1	
	<hr/>	
	2959	

The type of houses erected during the year are as follows:

Traditional three-bedroom-type houses .....	86
Traditional two-bedroom-type houses .....	3
Non-traditional three-bedroom-type houses ...	181
	<hr/>
	270



The total number of post-war Council houses (Limehurst) now completed is:

Traditional .....	100
Non-traditional .....	16
	<hr/>
Total ...	116

In addition to houses completed there are a further 50 houses in course of erection on Waterloo Estate and 10 houses by private enterprise.

### **Sewers and Sewerage**

Schemes to provide sewerage to deal with (i) Rhodes Hill area and (ii) Pitses area of the parish of Alt have been submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Preliminary negotiations have been instigated with the Failsworth U.D.C. regarding the proposed sewerage of the parish of Woodhouses.

### **Sewage Disposal**

During the year satisfactory reports have been received on the effluent from Bardsley, Waterloo and Newmarket Road Sewage Works from the Lancashire Rivers Board.

Agreements have been made with Ashton and Oldham Corporations for treatment of sewage from the new estates, and also with Oldham for treatment of sewage connecting to Bardsley sewers.

### **Refuse Removal and Cleansing**

House scavenging has been continued as for the previous years; that is, pail closets (586) on a weekly collection and ashbins on a fortnightly collection.

Since the inauguration of the system of renewing bins chargeable to the rates—that was at 1st April, 1949—258 bins have been replaced.

The Bardsley tip has been closed for the present time and during the year mechanical plant was employed to re-level Waterloo tip to give more effective working control.

### **Building Control**

The number of applications for the erection of various types of buildings dealt with during the year under Bye-Laws and Town Planning Regulations was 133.

## Tabulated Record of Sanitary Accommodation at the end of 1949

PARISH	Water Closets	Waste Water Closets	Pail Closets	Galv'd Bins	Cesspits
Alt ... ..	80	22	198	236	10
Bardsley ...	457	193	17	559	—
Littlemoss ...	161	10	136	265	5
Waterloo ...	1198	239	2	1278	—
Woodhouses	208	1	233	416	3
Totals ...	2104	465	586	2754	18

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

No public slaughterhouse is established in the District. There are four private slaughterhouses, one in Bardsley and three in Waterloo.

In January, 1940, private slaughtering ceased, all slaughtering being subject to Government control from this date. No Government slaughterhouse was established in Limehurst.

During the year one private slaughterhouse has been re-licensed for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. The number of horses slaughtered during the year was 607.

The following horseflesh has been found unfit for human consumption:

- 1 carcase, approx. weight 660 lbs.—tuberculosis;
- 3 carcasses, approx. weight 2,146 lbs.—dropsical and twisted gut;
- 1 head—tuberculosis;

791 lbs. of carcase meat.

Other foodstuffs which have been found unfit for human consumption:

- 25 lbs. of boneless beef (bovine);
- 95 tins of canned goods;
- 105 lbs. of rolled Irish bacon;
- 1-6 lbs. of ox tongue;
- 1-2 lbs. of chopped pork;
- 6 stones of fish;
- 4 tins of 4 lbs. French brawn—total 16 lbs.

Places where foodstuffs are prepared, sold or stored are subject to regular inspection. It has not been necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

### DAIRY FARMS AND DAIRY PREMISES

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Under the above legislation the responsibility for the supervision of the production of milk for sale was transferred on the 1st October, 1949, from Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There is now a clear distinction between the "production" and "distribution" of milk, the registration of dairy farms and farmers being the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the registration of milk distributors and their dairy premises the responsibility of Local Authorities.

The District Council is also responsible for the granting of dealers' supplementary licences for heat-treated milk and those in respect of raw designated milk.

The County Council as a Food and Drugs Authority is responsible for the licensing of plant and premises for the heat treatment of milk, i.e., pasteurisers' and sterilizers' licences. "Sterilized" milk is a new designation.

The regulations do not disturb the responsibility of Local Authorities regarding the infection of milk with tuberculosis.

Particulars concerning the regulations are as follows:

No. of milk distributors (raw and designated milks) registered .....	65
No. of supplementary licences (designated milks) granted	26



## MILK SAMPLING

The undermentioned is a summary of work done during the year, part of which was at the request of the Lancashire County Council.

### Tubercle Bacillus—Biological Test

Samples Submitted	No. Negative	No. Positive
53	46	7

### Methylene Blue

Samples Submitted	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
62	55	7

### Bacillus Coli

Samples Submitted	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
56	48	8

Note: The standard adopted in classification of the above was the "Accredited" standard.

Information concerning work in hand at the farms was sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries during October, 1949.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

### Ice-Cream Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947.

No. of premises registered (retailers only) .....	10
No. of premises registered as manufacturers (cold mix only) .....	1

## ICE-CREAM SAMPLING

No. of samples submitted	No. in Grade 1	No. in Grade 2	No. in Grade 3	No. in Grade 4
23	15	4	4	0

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 15—Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.

On the 27th October, 1949, the Minister of Food issued Model Bye-Laws Series I in lieu of the Model Bye-Laws Series XXIX, issued 1939.

The new Bye-Laws give much wider powers over the storage, handling, wrapping, delivery and sale of food in the open air; the Bye-Laws apply generally to all branches of the food trade. From a sanitarian point of view it is regretted that the Minister has not found means to provide suitable protective material for meat. However, it is intended that the Bye-Laws should be reviewed when sufficient experience has been gained of their operation, and I trust that when this takes place, the wording is clear in definition and free from ambiguity.



It is pleasing to note that the District Council has requested confirmation of the Model Bye-Laws Series I in their entirety.

### WATER SUPPLIES

All but 41 houses in the Rural District are supplied from public mains, the majority from the mains of Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, Stalybridge and District Waterworks, whilst a small number are fed from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks main. The water from both these sources is satisfactory in both quantity and quality. No bacteriological or chemical examinations have been made by the Rural District during the year, such examination being made by the Undertakers. There has been no evidence of plumbo-solvent action.

The number of houses supplied from standpipes is nil.

The population supplied direct from public mains is estimated at 7,610.

### HOUSING AND OVERCROWDING

The total number of dwelling-houses in the District at the end of the year was 2,959, mostly of the low-rented type and containing two bedrooms.

269 new houses have been erected during the year, a full report of which can be found in the Surveyor's section of the report.

37 applicants from the housing register have been rehoused, the majority of the occupants having been in lodgings. It has also been possible to rehouse a few applicants who have been tenants of old houses and the families so large that separation of sexes in bedrooms has been impossible. A few cases of sufferers from T.B., especially phthisis, have also been rehoused.

During the year 55 new applications for tenancy of your Council houses were received from people living in lodgings and one from a tenant in overcrowded premises. The total number of applicants under these two categories on the register at the end of the year was 84; the grand total of applicants in all categories on the housing register at the year end was 225, and 38 of the 225 had no residential or priority qualifications.

### SHOPS AND OFFICES

Visits have been made to shops in the District, and in the main these have been found to be satisfactory; no action was necessary with regard to offices.

## RODENT CONTROL

Since February, 1949, the Council has been responsible for the work under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1949; these powers were delegated by the Lancashire County Council.

The Council has one trained Rodent Operative on a part-time basis, and the work is supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year a survey of all surface property, rivers, canals and streams was carried out in accordance with the guidance given by the Rodent Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No reservoir infestations of rodents were found, but a few cases of major and minor infestations have been dealt with. All infestations found on domestic premises have been dealt with free of cost. All cases found in industrial and commercial premises were dealt with and costs recovered from the persons responsible.

Your sewage works and tips at Bardsley and Waterloo have received routine attention, also the small sewage disposal unit at Little Moss, and it has been possible to keep the rodent population under control.

With reference to rodent infestations found on the farms, etc., the assistance of the Lancashire Agricultural Committee, Rodent Infestation Department, was obtained, and in all cases of notification to this Authority good co-operation was obtained and on the whole the farmers are well satisfied with the results.

## OTHER VERMIN

During the summer a large number of complaints were received concerning cricket infestations on the Waterloo tip and you deemed it necessary to call in a private firm of fumigators to carry out disinfection on a large scale, which covered the whole area of the tip and the adjoining sewage works.

You also agreed to the use of mechanical excavating plant to remove a profuse growth of vegetation and levelling of the tipping site in general. This work will be most helpful in the future control of tipping.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector.



